



Orange County District Attorney

Press Release

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Biofem Lab Assistant Indicted on Weapons Charges

SANTA ANA --- The lab assistant and girlfriend of deceased Biofem business partner Larry Ford was indicted by the Orange County Grand Jury on two felony weapons violations that together carry a maximum of 8 years, 8 months in prison.

Ford committed suicide when he became a suspect in a botched assassination of his partner, Patrick Riley, on Feb. 28, 2000. An unidentified gunman shot Riley in the face as he showed up for work in Irvine. The getaway driver, Dino D'Saachs, was convicted last month of conspiring to murder Riley and is scheduled to be sentenced on June 29.

The Grand Jury indicted Valerie Kesler (DOB 11-10-63) on today's date and shortly thereafter she was arrested. Kesler is scheduled to be arraigned on Thursday, May 3, 2001 in Dept. 5 of the Central Justice Center. Because the defendant was indicted, prosecutors do not have to put on a preliminary hearing but instead can proceed to trial.

Kesler's charges are:

Transporting an assault weapon, an Uzi, on March 2, 2000; and
Possessing an assault weapon, a Belgian F.N. on March 2, 2000.

Police found the Uzi in Kesler's car on the day Larry Ford committed suicide after a search warrant was served at his house and after he became a strong suspect in the conspiracy and attempt to kill his partner, Patrick Riley. A search warrant was served on Kesler's home in Newport Beach and Detectives from the Irvine Police Department found the F.N. rifle.

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